

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

Thursday, February 26, 2013

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

5:00 p.m. – Budget Workshop

7:00 p.m. - Regular School Committee Meeting

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Chairman

Kellie DiPalma, Vice-Chairman

Liana Fenton

Paul Mankofsky

William O'Connell

Also Present:

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent

Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager

Edward Collins, Director of Facilities

The Budget Workshop was called to order at 5:04 p.m. The Budget

Meeting goals were reviewed. Level staffing is being projected. The projected enrollment for October 1, 2013 is 2428 students. The projected loss of State Aid for 2014 is \$191,119. The total loss of State Aid funding to date is \$454,634.

Approximately \$700,000 would need to be reduced from the draft budget to meet the 4% cap.

Revenue Projections – This is the third year of the funding formula and loss of State Aid. There are major concerns regarding sequestration. We have received our funding for this year for Impact Aid. Impact Aid is now level funded. There are no prior year payments in the budget. Mrs. Kraeger will attend NAFIS Conference this weekend.

The budget right now is at 3.94%. There needs to be a conversation with the Town Council regarding how we plan for the reduction in State Aid.

Major projected expenditures in the budget include contractual agreements/step increases, a 10% increase in health care premiums, an increase in pension and post-retirement benefits, and special education and charter school increases. 80% of expenditures are salaries.

The Town Council will receive the budget on March 18th, but there is not a School Committee Meeting until March 21st. The budget will be

presented tonight in the amount of \$37,275,158. The Town Council adopts the bottom line, then the final budget is adopted 30 days from that date.

This budget mirrors and aligns perfectly with the Town budget. Goals, Strategic Plan, and Budget Timeline are included. The BEP (Basic Education Plan) is included in the proposed budget for information purposes. Mrs. Fenton asked Dave Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, from RIDE and Attorney Scungio speak to the Town Council about being non-compliant with the BEP and that State Aid would be eliminated if we are non-compliant. The target audience should be the Town Council. The Town Council needs to know the consequences for not funding the school department budget. In order to do that they need to understand the BEP. Mrs. Spengler recommends that Mrs. Kraeger

(Minutes of February 26, 2013 School Committee Meeting, Page Two)

communicate with Mr. Brown that the School Committee would like to meet with the Town Council in March.

MOTION: 1)Kellie DiPalma, 2) William O'Connell. To adjourn from the Budget Workshop at 6:21 p.m. Unanimous vote.

The Regular School Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Administrative staff members present were Gail Abromitis, Stephen Ponte, and Linda Beaupre.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. To move the Budget Adoption agenda item to the beginning of the agenda. Unanimous

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. To approve the FY 2013-14 budget the amount of 37,275,158. Motion passed 3 to 2.

YAY – Theresa Spengler

Liana Fenton

Kellie DiPalma

NAY – William O’Connell

Paul Mankofsky

Mr. O’Connell said that a lot of work and thought was put into the budget. Mrs. Spengler thanked everyone for their hard work. Mr. Mankofsky said that everyone did a fine job putting the budget together, but he cannot support it.

Mr. O’Connell left at 7:05 p.m.

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. To move Proclamations up on the agenda. Unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

- Student Awards – Student Awards were presented to the Newport Daily News Student and Athlete of the Week.**

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

No “Spotlight on Teaching and Learning” for February 26, 2013.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

No “Student Activities” for February 26, 2013.

(Minutes of February 26, 2013 School Committee Meeting, Page Three)

INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger noted the following items of information:

- Resolutions**
- Letter from Commissioner Gist regarding graduation requirements**

and NECAP scores.

- Chartwells Newsletter**
- The Wave student newspaper**

CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for February 26, 2013.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

- Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2013 Budget Workshop and School Committee Meeting**
- Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2013 Executive Session**
- Approval of Minutes of January 24, 2013 Budget Workshop**
- Approval of Minutes of January 30, 2013 Budget Workshop**
- Approval of Minutes of February 7, 2013 Budget Workshop**
- Approval of Minutes of February 13, 2013 Budget Workshop**
- Approval of Quarterly Report**
- Approval of the following vouchers:**

January 12, 2013 to February 19, 2013

Voucher Number Voucher Date Voucher Amount

1223 1/14/2013 \$301.76

1224 1/15/2013 \$5,894.46

1227 1/16/2013 \$1,174.86

1239 1/17/2013 \$33.00

1229 1/18/2013 \$2,201.74

1228 1/18/2013 \$122,780.03

1234 1/22/2013 \$2,198.10

1233 1/22/2013 \$657.16

1232 1/22/2013 \$7,969.50

1231 1/22/2013 \$71,567.33

1230 1/22/2013 \$26,050.87

1236 1/23/2013 \$225.00

1235 1/23/2013 \$921.35

1240 1/24/2013 \$77.00

1238 1/24/2013 \$380.00

1237 1/24/2013 \$0.00

1247 1/30/2013 \$51,294.15

1250 2/1/2013 \$75.00

1249 2/1/2013 \$71,838.60

1248 2/1/2013 \$723.25

1251 2/5/2013 \$5,483.91

1268 2/6/2013 \$22,203.55

1259 2/6/2013 \$3,400.00

1258 2/6/2013 \$14,976.70

1261 2/7/2013 \$1,544.22

1260 2/7/2013 \$2,757.85
1263 2/11/2013 \$1,044.00
1262 2/11/2013 \$140,480.03
1265 2/12/2013 \$86,006.95
1264 2/12/2013 \$7,007.68
1267 2/15/2013 \$34,079.61
1266 2/15/2013 \$2,400.00
1271 2/19/2013 \$502.25
1270 2/19/2013 \$251.09
1269 2/19/2013 \$328,582.99
Total \$1,017,083.99

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS

Charles Russ

Camp Site Manager for February and April Vacation Camp

TRANSFER FROM 3-HOUR TO 4-HOUR TEACHER ASSISTANT

Sarah Topazio

Teacher Assistant, Aquidneck School

RESIGNATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT

Pamela Alexander Multi-Age Teacher, Aquidneck School

Frances Brown Music Teacher, J.H. Gaudet School

Marie Eckler Kindergarten Teacher, Aquidneck School

Denise McCarthy 7th Grade Leader/4th Grade Guidance, J.H. Gaudet

Robert O'Brien Math Teacher, Middletown High School

Mary Nassaney 8th Grade Leader, J.H. Gaudet School

Ann Sullivan Social Studies Teacher, Middletown High School

RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR

Dana Ramey Spanish Teacher, Middletown High School

(Minutes of February 26, 2013 School Committee Meeting, Page Five)

SPRING COACHING APPOINTMENTS AS OF MARCH 14, 2013

Chuck Paiva Varsity Baseball Coach

Chris Bowley Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach

Robin Ramey Varsity Softball Coach

Richard Formica Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Coach

Robert Weaver Assistant Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Coach

Marianne Packer Varsity Boys' Tennis Coach

Jesse Alvanas Junior Varsity Softball Coach

Kristen Seyster Varsity Boys'/Girls' Outdoor Track Coach

Keith Holubesko 6/7/8th Grade Softball Coach

Chelsea Seyster Assistant Girls' Track Coach

Lisa Clark Varsity Golf Coach

Christine Elliott Varsity Softball Coach

RESIGNATION AS OF JANUARY 21, 2013

**Joquan Chambers Part-Time Custodian, Facilities Management
Department**

RESIGNATION AS OF FEBRUARY 15, 2013

Mary Maitland Bus Monitor

TERMINATION AS OF MARCH 19, 2012

Charles Peladeaus Bus Monitor

TERMINATION AS OF DECEMBER 17, 2012

Alejo Manglicmot Bus Monitor

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

Raquel Pellerin

Business Manager

From March 1, 2013 to April 12, 2013

ACTION ITEMS

REDUCTION IN FORCE

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma , 2) Liana Fenton. That the Superintendent's Report be accepted and adopted and the necessary letters sent out. Unanimous vote.

Reduction In Force is required to be done by March 1st. State Legislators are working to move the date back. This year, there are three categories, (Long-Term Substitute or One Year Only, Elimination of Position, and Non-Certified Expiration of Employment Contract).

(Minutes of February 26, 2013 School Committee Six)

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School

Committee approve the budget amendments and forward to the Town Council. Unanimous vote.

ADOPT VISUAL ARTS CURRICULUM

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee adopt the Visual Arts Curriculum.

AMENDED MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee adopt the Fine Arts Curriculum. Unanimous vote.

This curriculum includes Visual Arts and Music K-12.

OLD BUSINESS

•SAFETY UPDATE – The Safety Advisory Committee meeting was cancelled in February and has been rescheduled for March 12th. Focus group questions will be developed. Safety efforts going into effect soon include badges and swipe cards for all staff. New PA systems at Forest Avenue and Aquidneck School are being reviewed. They are original to the buildings and need upgrading.

NEW BUSINESS

No “New Business” for February 26, 2013.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS

•CURRICULUM – Mrs. Savastano reported that the middle and high school teachers continue to work on the Social Studies curriculum. Summary reports are available for recently released NECAP results. There are four reports that compare over the years data. This data is reflective of last year’s teaching. Principals will report by school in April or May. Private schools do not use these assessments, but charter schools do.

•FINANCIAL – A Budget Workshop was held before the School Committee Meeting. The Quarterly Report was included. This is completed along with the Town and sent to the State. It determines how we are doing with cash flow. If there is a deficit, we would have to prepare a deficit reduction plan.

Mrs. Fenton requested that Mrs. Kraeger invited Dave Abbott from the Department of Education and Attorney Scungio to meet with the Town Council to give background on the BEP and the consequences of not complying with the BEP. An agenda will be created. This was discussed at the Budget Workshop.

•FACILITIES – Mr. Collins reported that the facilities department is finishing up painting the locker rooms and team room at Gaudet School. Field work will begin in two weeks.

MOTION: 1)Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Miss DiPalma reminded the committee that the Middletown Educational Collaborate fundraiser will be held this Saturday at Salve Regina University.

Mrs. Fenton attended the State School Board Association meeting. There was discussion about high school graduation and moving students toward proficiency.

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1)Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn from the School Committee Meeting at 7:59 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk